

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 30, 2007. Claims 14 and 17-24 are pending in this application, with claims 14, 23 and 24 being in independent form. Claims 1-13, 15 and 16 have been canceled without prejudice and claims 14, 20, 21, 23 and 24 have been amended. It is submitted that no new matter has been added and no new issues have been raised by the present Amendment.

Claims 14, 15, 17-20 and 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,375,180 to Kawano.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 16 and 21 would be allowable if written in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Without conceding the propriety of the rejection, claim 14 has been amended to include the limitations of allowed claim 16 and intervening claim 15. Claims 20 and 21 have been amended to depend from claim 14.

Independent claims 23 and 24 have also been amended to incorporate limitations corresponding to claims 15 and 16 and are believed to be patentable for at least similar reasons.

Accordingly, it is believed that the present application is now in condition for allowance. obtained by The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the

requisite fees to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Entry of this amendment and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard F. Jaworski', is written over a horizontal line.

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